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astrous (pp. 207, 231-232); that the exodus of the *ouvriers* resulted in an influx of the peasant class into the towns, making cheap and unskillful labor and entailing a consequent decline of agriculture in the rural areas. In order to feed the armies Louis XIV. interdicted the cultivation of the vine in whole provinces naturally adapted to it and required the cultivation of grain where it could not be grown successfully. The consequence was that vast areas went over to pasturage (p. 225). Complaint is made of the paucity of data upon the history of agriculture, but no one who reads these pages will doubt that the author has made a most remarkable showing of facts. Under the adverse conditions the vitality of agriculture, and even more of commerce, was remarkable. The activity of the Chambers of Commerce in the large cities is particularly noted (p. 215 ff.). On page 253 is a paragraph worthy of larger treatment which aims to show that England was almost as much interested in capturing the markets of Spain as in taking up French colonies.

The remainder of the volume is not remarkable. M. Rébelliau deals with affairs of religion and the progress of literature and science and M. Lavissee contributes a short book (vi.) upon the King and the royal family and the court in the last period of the reign, to read most of which is like walking through a portrait gallery. The bibliographies, as usual, are excellent. The only notable omissions seem to be Ranke's *History of England in the Seventeenth Century* and the *Lexington Papers*.

JAMES WESTFALL THOMPSON.

Paris sous Napoléon: Assistance et Bienfaisance, Approvisionnement. Par L. DE LANZAC DE LABORIE. (Paris: Plon-Nourrit et Cie. 1908. Pp. 360.)

IN this fourth volume of his exhaustive studies the author follows consistently the plan of the preceding three and what was said of them in a previous number of the REVIEW is equally true of this one (see XIV. 127). It is fully as interesting, painstaking and enlightening. Realizing in the fullest degree how Paris reacted on the rest of France, Napoleon began at the earliest moment the reconstruction of every organization, public and private, which contributed to the comfort of the lower and middle classes. Hospitals and asylums in the first instance, out-door relief and pawn-broking in the second were his especial care. Briefly the disorder incident to the successive revolutionary administrations was banished by a restoration of the older system radically modified. The streams of private benefaction had ceased to flow when the personal element was abolished; they were reopened and the well-springs cleared almost at once by restoring their names to old foundations, their familiar designations to institutions, and re-establishing worship in those of the first importance, such as the re-named Hôtel Dieu. The most

beneficent measure of all was the dismissal of a vast number of worthless servants and functionaries who had held their positions so long that they considered their places as personal property and shirked their work without shame. The method by which the finances were restored was simple enough. Though it diminished available income, the claims of living heirs on certain endowments were recognized, as a measure of common honesty; confidence thus restored, the taxes at the city gates were sufficiently increased to more than supply the loss. The total of such returns, great as was the pressure upon Napoleon, was never permitted to exceed a million dollars, and this insured the practice of a wholesome and rigid economy by the council of administration, otherwise nearly autonomous.

This is but one example of the homely common sense which the Consul and Emperor applied in stimulating real charity and curbing sentimentalism. The invalids who could pay were compelled to pay and found refuge in hospitals and asylums where they received full value for their money. The abuses of the great central loan-broking establishment were reformed by a study of its actual needs and by providing a capital just sufficient for its necessities, and no more.

The second portion of the book, three ample chapters, exhibits fully how the city was provisioned. The bitter experience of General Bonaparte in connection with greedy, unprincipled army contractors during his Italian campaigns had left in the mind of the Emperor Napoleon a deep-seated distrust of all such dealers. In his transactions with them he so scrutinized their performance and accounts that while they frequently suffered from suspicion and petty injustice the people at large benefited immensely. Severe as was the famine of 1811-1812, the city weathered the storm with nothing worse than inconvenience and some unpleasant but harmless privations. The number of bakers was diminished by a half, those only being permitted to remain in business who were so well off that they could work for little or no profit. Grain and flour were sold to them at the lowest possible rates, and the price of bread was slightly increased by administrative decree. Parallel measures were inaugurated for meats, fish, poultry, dairy products and fuel. First and last, all the details of municipal regulation and sumptuary law were thoroughly studied by Napoleon himself, so diligent was he in his rôle of paternal ruler. Though his dealing in such matters as in others of even greater importance was in violation of all economic law, he was content to meet problems as they arose and solve them by even the most temporary expedients.

The author has found in the national archives ample material for all the social and economic novelties in his book. For his work, however, he claims political importance as well, because he believes that Napoleon's fatherly care in the prudent and cautious management of Parisian susceptibility was the foundation stone of his success. To

relieve the necessities of the poor, to make secure the livelihood of the honest toiler, to give those with fixed incomes the largest return for their expenditure, in short to provide for general comfort and well-being in Paris seems to our author a master stroke of political wisdom. No doubt it was. It is impossible to judge motives, but possibly the Emperor's conduct was not entirely controlled by self-interest. There are many instances in his life which exhibit a compassionate nature. Whatever else may be said in favor of the Revolution, nothing is more certain than the utter demoralization of France at its close. The Napoleonic men, with their leader in the van, were profoundly concerned for the regeneration of the country, not entirely as a political measure, although politics occupied their thoughts very largely, but in some small measure at least as a task imposed by common humanity on all in power.

The Russian Conquest of the Caucasus. By JOHN F. BADDELEY.
(London and New York: Longmans, Green and Company.
1908. Pp. xxxviii, 518.)

FROM close touch with the tribesmen of the Caucasus whom he has known intimately and in a manner altogether unique, the author of this work came gradually to acquire an interest in the historical aspect of their subjugation by the Russians; and finding, even in Russian, no general sketch of the conquest, he has essayed the first complete history of the subject. The equipment needed for this special field—contact with the Caucasus mountaineers—he has gained in a manner which he thus explains in the preface: "Riding through the Caucasus, unaccompanied save by native tribesmen, living with them, accepting their hospitality, studying their way of life and character, conforming as far as possible to their customs, noting their superstitions and prejudices, writing down their songs and legends, I became interested, likewise, in all that related to that strife with Russia in which they or their fathers had, almost without exception, taken part."

As a guide to material there was at hand one of those compilations for which Russian historiography is famous, Miansarov's *Bibliographia Caucasica et Transcaucasica* (1874-1876); but Mr. Baddeley has availed himself of the most recent literature, particularly the documenta of the Archaeographical Commission of the Caucasus and the volumes of the *Kavkazski Sbornik*. That the reliable material should be exclusively Russian was inevitable, for, as Mr. Baddeley observes, the fragmentary accounts and references in languages other than Russian—notably in English—are "full of prejudice and error"; a remark with which we heartily concur, and which, stated with frankness at the beginning of the book, sets at rest the suspicion of Russophobe propaganda, always lurking about an English work on any phase of Russian expansion. Towards the Russian sources Mr. Baddeley is throughout critical, for his own personal knowledge of the tribesmen, especially of the Daghes-